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## *University Letter*

**June 15, 2001**

**Volume 38 No. 39**

UNIVERSITY LETTER

University of North Dakota at Grand Forks

Vol. 38, Number 39, June 15, 2001

UNIVERSITY LETTER IS ALSO AVAILABLE ELECTRONICALLY in the Events and News section of UNInfo, the University's menu system on the Internet. The address is: <http://www.und.nodak.edu/dept/our/uletter.htm>

The University Relations Office maintains an index for the University Letter.

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## **STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE**

The final working draft of the Strategic Plan is now online at [222.und.edu/stratplan](http://222.und.edu/stratplan).

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## **JOSEPH BENOIT NAMED DEAN OF GRADUATE SCHOOL**

Joseph Benoit Jr. has been appointed dean of the Graduate School. He earned a B.S. in biology/chemistry in 1979 from the University of Southwestern Louisiana in Lafayette, a B.S. in 1982 and a Ph.D. in 1986, both in basic medical sciences, from the University of South Alabama College of Medicine in Mobile. He did postdoctoral work there and at the Microcirculation Research Institute at Texas A&M University. Dr. Benoit has served as a faculty member at the Department of Physiology and Biophysics at the Louisiana State University Medical Center in Shreveport, and the Institute for Micromanufacturing in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Louisiana Technical University, Ruston. He joined the Department of Physiology at the University of South Alabama College of Medicine as an associate professor in 1995, and was named a full professor in 1998. He has served as director of graduate studies for the graduate program in basic medical sciences at South Alabama since July 2000.

He has taught various courses in neurophysiology, advanced cardiovascular physiology, and medical physiology, and has received grants from the National Institutes of Health, American Heart Association, and private foundations. His work has been published in a number of scientific journals.

Dr. Benoit succeeds Harvey Knull, who took a position at Texas A&M University.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **ALICE HOFFERT NAMED ASSOCIATE V.P. FOR ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT**

Alice Hoffert has been named associate vice president for enrollment management. Prior to her appointment, she served as director of student financial aid, and was director of payroll from 1984 to 1996. A member of the University community since 1974, she has also worked as assistant to the dean in the College of Human Resources Development and as an administrative officer at the Human Nutrition Research Center. She holds an associate degree from Lake Region Junior College in Devils Lake, a B.S. in business education, and a master's degree in business education, both from UND. She is currently working on her Ph.D. in educational leadership on campus. Hoffert succeeds Don Piper, who recently retired.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **KENTON PAULS NAMED ENROLLMENT SERVICES DIRECTOR**

Kenton Pauls has been named director of enrollment services. He holds a Bachelor of Business Administration from Trinity Western University in Langley, British Columbia. He served as a senior admissions counselor for Trinity

Western from 1995 to 2000, and has worked as a project manager for Ad-West Realty Services in Lynden, Wash., and as a property manager for Coast Management Co., Everett, Wash. He has experience recruiting in Canada, the United States, the Pacific Rim, Africa, and Europe. Pauls succeeds Rob Carolin, who accepted a position with the UND Alumni Association and Foundation.

\*\*\*\*\*

## EVENTS TO NOTE

### RECEPTION WILL HONOR LARRY SPAIN

A farewell reception for Larry Spain, Professor of Law and Director of Legal Aid, will be at 10 a.m. Friday, June 15, in the Tisdale Lounge (second floor) of the Law School. Please help us in wishing Larry well in his new home in Texas.

Marsha Brossart, School of Law.

\*\*\*\*\*

### MECHANICAL ENGINEERING CANDIDATE WILL GIVE TALK

On Friday, June 15, Gyuhae Park, a candidate for a faculty position in Mechanical Engineering, will present "Applications of Smart Materials to Diagnostics and Vibration Suppression." The presentation will take place at 2 p.m. in 263 Upson II Hall. Dr. Park is from the Center for Intelligent Material Systems and Structures at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg. All are invited to attend.

Mechanical Engineering Department.

\*\*\*\*\*

### RECEPTION WILL HONOR CARMEN AHLERS

After 6 1/2 years at UND, Carmen Ahlers will leave the Office of Greek Life in the Memorial Union to become the Director of Student Development at the University of Southern Indiana. A farewell reception will be held Thursday, June 21, 2 to 4 p.m. at the Student Organizations Center (first floor of the Memorial Union). Please join us as we wish Carmen the best of luck!

Susan Johnson, Coordinator, Student Organizations, Memorial Union.

\*\*\*\*\*

### DOCTORAL EXAMINATIONS SET FOR FOUR CANDIDATES

The final examination for Pamela K. Elf, a candidate for the Ph.D. degree with a major in Biology, is set for 1 p.m. Thursday, June 21, in 105 Starcher Hall. The dissertation title is "Yolk Steroid Hormone in Turtle and Chicken Eggs." Albert Fivizzani (Biology) is the committee chair.

The final examination for JoAnne Bates, a candidate for the Ph.D. degree with a major in Psychology, is set for 1 p.m. Monday, July 2, in 210 Corwin-Larimore Hall. The dissertation title is "An Examination of Hangover Effects on Pilot Performance." F.R. Ferraro (Psychology) is the committee chair.

The final examination for Lori Shaleen, a candidate for the Ph.D. degree with a major in Clinical Psychology, is set for noon Tuesday, July 10, in 210 Corwin-Larimore Hall. The dissertation title is "The Efficacy of Residential Care in the Management of Serious Mental Illness." Alan King (Psychology) is the committee chair.

The final examination for Cheryl Broneck, a candidate for the Ph.D. degree with a major in Counseling Psychology, is

set for 10 a.m. Friday, July 13, in 318 Montgomery Hall. The dissertation title is "Examining Differences in Issues of Spirituality Between Couples with Children and Voluntarily Childless Couples." Cindy Juntunen (Counseling) is the committee chair.

Members of the Graduate Faculty are invited to attend.

Carl Fox, Interim Dean, Graduate School.

\*\*\*\*\*

## SCIENTIST WILL SPEAK AT HNRC

Mark Tarnopolsky, Professor, Department of Medicine and Neurology, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, will present the seminar, "Strategies Aimed at Reducing Oxidative Stress in Neuromuscular Disease" at the Grand Forks Human Nutrition Research Center, 3 p.m. Wednesday, June 27.

Phyllis Wilkes, Program Support Assistant, USDA ARS Grand Forks Human Nutrition Research Center.

\*\*\*\*\*

## WOMEN'S FACULTY RETREAT PLANNED

A women's faculty retreat is being planned for the weekend of Aug. 17-19, at Turtle River State Park. The all-inclusive price for the weekend, including cabin rentals and catered meals, will not exceed \$65 per person (and may be less, depending on the final number of participants). We will have workshops, games, a raffle and a keynote speaker for Saturday night's dinner. A \$20 deposit is needed by July 1 to secure registration. The checks should be made out to UND and sent to Debra Maury, Campus Box 8198. This event has been partially funded by the office of the provost/VPAA. If you'd like to offer to lead workshops, or need more information, please call Debra at 777-4663 or 787-6020. Those mailing in checks should include information for contacting them over the summer.

Debra Maury, Spanish, Department of Languages.

\*\*\*\*\*

## CONFERENCE SET TO DISCUSS AMERICAN INDIAN TEAM NAMES, LOGOS

The Northern Plains Conference on American Indian Team Names and Logos is set for Wednesday through Saturday, Oct. 3-6, on campus. The conference coincides with the opening of the Ralph Engelstad Arena, where the University's new Indian head logo will be unveiled and displayed. The conference will include legal, educational, psychological, spiritual, sports, business, historical and media-related round-table discussions on the impact of using this type of imagery.

We also invite conference participants and the public to join us for a "Change-the-Name" rally in response to the opening of the new arena on Oct. 5. The schedule follows:

Wednesday, Oct. 3, 6 to 10 p.m., Meals and open house, International Centre.

Thursday, Oct. 4, 8 to 9 a.m., Registration and continental breakfast. 9 to 9:30 a.m., Pipe ceremony and welcome. 9:30 to 11 a.m. Panels. 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Luncheon with speaker. 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., Panels. 4 to 5:30 p.m., Workshop: North Central Faculty Association policy development. 7 p.m., Speaker. 8 p.m., Entertainment/Concert; pizza; Creative Resistance Workshop. The video, "In Whose Honor," will play throughout the day.

Friday, Oct. 5, 8 to 9:30 a.m., Continental breakfast. 9:30 to 11 a.m., Panels. 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Luncheon with speaker. 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., Panel. 3:30 to 5 p.m., Pre-Rally discussion/training. 5:30 p.m., Rally. 8 p.m., Entertainment/concert.

Saturday, Oct. 6, 11 a.m., Picnic in the Park. The artist Oscar Arrendondo's exhibits, "Welcome to Cleveland" and "Mile in My Moccasins," will be on display throughout the conference. The artist will be available to answer questions.

Sponsors include the Campus Committee for Human Rights, BRIDGES, Indian Studies Department, Native Media Center, native American Programs Office, Multicultural Student Services, Women Studies Program, INPSYDE Program, National Coalition on Racism in Sports and Media, United Church of Christ, Racial Justice Ministry Team, American Indian Movement.

Lucy Ganje (Communication) for Campus Committee for Human Rights.

\*\*\*\*\*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### UNIVERSITY LETTER LISTS SUMMER SCHEDULE

The University Letter will be published every other week during the summer. Following are the publication dates: June 29, July 13 and 27, Aug. 10, 17, and 24. The deadline for article submission remains at 1 p.m. the Tuesday before you wish the article published. Articles will be run only once due to space and budget constraints.

If you will be away for the summer and wish to suspend your paper or electronic subscription until fall, please contact me.

Jan Orvik, Editor, University letter, 777-3621, [jan\\_orvik@mail.und.nodak.edu](mailto:jan_orvik@mail.und.nodak.edu).

\*\*\*\*\*

### NEW 2001-03 UNDERGRADUATE/GRADUATE ACADEMIC CATALOG NOW AVAILABLE

The new 2001-03 edition of the combined undergraduate and graduate Academic Catalog of the University of North Dakota has been issued. It includes information on application, admission, registration, financial aid, requirements for degrees, descriptions of fields of study and courses, and a listing of UND faculty members and administrative officials. Copies may be obtained from the UND Office of Enrollment Services, 312 Twamley Hall.

-- Jim Penwarden, Office of University Relations.

\*\*\*\*\*

### OUR SEEKS INFO ABOUT UND RESEARCH, PROJECTS TAKING PLACE IN ND THIS SUMMER

The Office of University Relations seeks information about UND research and projects being conducted in other North Dakota locations this summer. OUR would like to "pitch" UND research and project stories to media throughout North Dakota, as well as consider covering story ideas for UND's own publications. If you or your department/unit is now or plans to be out in the state this summer, please reply back with an e-mail as soon as practical. OUR's Peter Johnson, UND Media Relations Coordinator, and Chuck Kimmerle, UND photographer, will make a swing through the state the week of June 25. We will do our best to work what we can into our schedule. There may be other opportunities for a statewide swing later in the summer, as well. In any case, OUR would love to visit with newspapers, radio and television news departments across the state about UND work taking place in their circulation/coverage areas. Please let us know as soon as you can about research/projects that you know about so we can plan accordingly.

Thanks for the help. We appreciate it.

Peter Johnson, Media Relations Coordinator.

\*\*\*\*\*

## IP VIDEOCONFERENCING WILL BE AVAILABLE THROUGH IVN

Activity is under way on the development and implementation of Internet Protocol (IP) videoconferencing on the state ATM network. IVN, in conjunction with the North Dakota Information Technology Department, SENDIT Technology Services, and Center for Innovation in Instruction, are all playing a role.

University system departments and personnel interested in videoconferencing on the network should visit the IVN web page for the latest information on video development (<http://www.ndivn.nodak.edu/VidNetUpdate.htm>). Three important documents pertaining to IP video development include: a video update, which provides a current status report on the network and explains the various agencies and responsibilities involved; a support pyramid, which provides an overview of the types of activities anticipated on the network and the roles and responsibilities of the different players within the various activities; and video guidelines for NDUS, which provides detailed information on IP video specific to the NDUS. Additional information on the network is also posted on the web page.

Please note: the information provided in these documents is based on the best information and knowledge available at this date. The guidelines and procedures are subject to change as knowledge and experience with the technology expand. Please consult the IVN web page for the latest information.

For further information, call the IVN office at 701-777-6486.

N.D. Interactive Video Network.

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## EQUIPMENT CAPITALIZATION LEVEL INCREASED

Effective July 1, the North Dakota Legislature changed the definition of capital equipment from that having a purchase price of over \$750 to a price of \$5,000 or greater. It is anticipated that this change will be approved by the Department of Health and Human Services for use in defining equipment purchases on grants or contracts.

Equipment purchased on current grants and contracts prior to the effective date of the new definition may be reclassified after July 1 according to the new definition. Since equipment costing between \$750 and \$5,000 will change from being considered equipment to classified as supplies, the changes will also affect the calculation of indirect costs on those projects. Recognizing the difficulties created by such changes, the University will not record indirect costs greater than the amount associated with the original definition. The result of this decision will be that the funds available for the project as direct charges will remain the same. If, when the project is ended, there are funds left over and the sponsor approves, the University will charge indirect costs on the difference.

Proposals submitted prior to July 1 should use the new definition of equipment.

Investigators who have projects with equipment budgeted, but not yet purchased, are encouraged to make those purchases before July 1. If there are any questions on phasing in the change in capitalization of equipment, please contact Grants and Contracts Administration at 777-4151 or the Grants Officer for your grant.

-- David Schmidt, Manager, Grants and Contracts Administration.

\*\*\*\*\*

## DO NOT HOLD PAYROLL CHECKS

Payroll checks should not be held in departments, and must be cashed within 90 days of payday or they are void. Employees should be encouraged to pick up their checks immediately, or the checks should be mailed in a department envelope. Each department is responsible to get payroll checks to their employees. If you do not have a current address for the employee or the home address on the system is not valid, please forward the check immediately to the Payroll Office, Box 7127. Thank you. --

Pat Hanson, Director of Payroll/Risk Management.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **SALARY AND FRINGE BENEFIT REPORTS NOW ON PAGE CENTER**

The salary and fringe benefit reports that departments receive each pay period are now exclusively on Page Center. During the past three months, departments have been reminded to sign up for access to these reports. The May 31 payroll was the first payroll for which hard copy reports were not mailed to departments.

Prior to each payday, a reminder will be sent out to all individuals signed up for the service that the reports are on Page Center. All departments are strongly encouraged to review these reports PRIOR to pay day and report any discrepancies to the Payroll Office.

If you normally review the salary and fringe benefit reports each pay period for your department and you still have not requested the Page Center access, please call the Computer Center at 777-2222 immediately.

Pat Hanson, Director of Payroll and Risk Management.

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## **STUDENT HEALTH WILL NOT RELOCATE**

Student Health would like to take this opportunity to inform the campus community that we will not change locations in the fall when UND Family Practice moves next to Barnes and Noble. Student Health will remain in McCannel Hall on Second Ave., directly across from the Memorial Union. There is, however, a new phone number for the reception desk; the former 777-3963 has been changed to 777-4500. The appointment desk is 777-2605.

- Linda Palmiscno, Student Health.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **PARENTS SOUGHT FOR STUDY**

Parents of boys age 10 - 16 are invited to participate in a study of families. The study requires one parent and the child to complete confidential questionnaires for approximately one hour, and each family is paid \$15. If you are interested, please contact me.

-- Lisa Leadbetter, Psychology, 777-3212.

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## **UPCOMING U2 WORKSHOPS LISTED**

The following list contains U2 workshop titles for the next few weeks. Please log on to our web site for a full listing of June workshop titles at [www.conted.und.edu/U2](http://www.conted.und.edu/U2). You may register by calling Amy Noeldner at 777-2128, by e-mail, [U2@mail.und.nodak.edu](mailto:U2@mail.und.nodak.edu), or online at the above web site.

Excel 00: Level II, June 25, 27, and 29 from 9 to 11:45 a.m. (7.5 hours), 361 Upson II. Prerequisite: Excel 00: level I, Develop and work with more complex worksheets. Instructor: Jim Malins.

Happy New Year, Catch the New Changes for Fiscal Year 2002! June 29 from 9 to 11 a.m., 16/18 Swanson Hall. This workshop is designed to update you on the changes that will be implemented in the new fiscal year. Some of these changes will be travel policies & procedures, equipment limit increase, food purchases and changes in Visa purchasing card and SOS limits. Instructors: Allison Payton, Lisa Heher and Alice Brekke.



Amy Noeldner, University Within the University Program Assistant.

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## MALE SMOKERS SOUGHT FOR MEMORY STUDY

Male participants are sought for a study on nicotine and memory being conducted in the Department of Psychology by Dimitri Poltavski, a graduate student in psychology. You must be a smoker who has smoked at least 10 cigarettes a day for the previous six months, and be between 18 and 35 years of age to participate. Participants will be paid \$25. If you are interested please call Dimitri at 780-8001.

Thomas Petros, Department of Psychology.

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## STATE LIFE INSURANCE RATES INCREASE

Life insurance rates for benefitted employees purchasing additional life insurance through ReliaStar will increase with the June 15 paycheck. The increase ranges from an average of \$.01 per thousand for ages 20-44, to \$.13 per thousand for ages 65-69. If you have questions regarding this increase, call Vicki or Gayle at 777-2158 or 777-4469.

Payroll Office.

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## GRANTS AND RESEARCH

### UPDATED EDUCATION PROGRAM AVAILABLE FOR INVESTIGATORS CONDUCTING RESEARCH USING HUMAN SUBJECTS

Recent regulations have specified that an educational program must be provided to investigators by institutions operating under the federal regulations governing human subjects research. The UND Institutional Review Board (IRB) chose to use an Internet-based set of modules sponsored by The Collaborative IRB Training Initiative (CITI) and the University of Miami. The CITI course consists of 14 modules encompassing the history of the IRB system, the regulations governing human subjects research, and topics specific to areas of particular importance, controversy or complexity. Each module has a quiz associated with it.

The CITI Training was recently updated, and the program reopened on June 11, 2001. The required core modules have changed. The core modules 1 4, 5, 7, and 11 are to be taken by all investigators. Additional modules will be required when the research project topics are within areas covered by those modules. The course is accessible from a link on the ORPD web site at <http://www.und.nodak.edu/dept/orpd/regucomm/irb/irb.htm>, or investigators may go directly to the course registration at the URL [www.miami.edu/citireg](http://www.miami.edu/citireg). Those registering for the course will receive a password by email, generally within 24 hours. Specific UND requirements are listed on the UND Institutional Page available on the course site.

Completion of the course will be required of all participants in a project who are in a position to protect the rights of the subjects participating in the research. Since every project is different, the specific positions are difficult to identify. A general rule is principal investigators, those in contact with the subjects, and those in contact with data with identifiers will be required to complete the program. Investigators submitting protocols for review by the IRB will be expected to identify the persons involved in the research who will need to complete the program.

For questions on this requirement, or if you have difficulty with the course, please contact me at 777-4079, or Sally Eckert-Tilotta, ORPD Interim Director at 777-2049.

-- Cindy Rerick, IRB Coordinator, Office of Research and Program Development.

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## GRANT RECIPIENTS LISTED

The Office of Research and Program Development would like to congratulate the following UND faculty and staff who were listed as principal or co-principal investigators on awards received during the months of February, March and April 2001:

Anthropology: Duane Klinner, Dennis Toom; Atmospheric Sciences: Cedric Grainger, Michael Poellot; Biochemistry and Molecular Biology: Siegfried Detke; Biology: Richard Crawford, Peter Meberg, Robert Newman, Sally Pyle, Rick Sweitzer, Jefferson Vaughan; Bureau of Educational Services and Applied Research: John Hoover; Chemistry: Evgenii Kozliak, David Tilotta; Civil Engineering: Ali Abolmaali, Charles Moretti; Community Medicine and Rural Health: Kyle Muus; Computer Science: Brajendra Panda; Counseling: David Whitcomb; Economics and Public Affairs - Political Science and Public Administration - Bureau of Governmental Affairs: Mary Kweit; EERC: Ted Aulich, Christina Behr-Andres, Steven Benson, Michael Collings, Charlene Crocker, Daniel Daly, Bruce Dockter, Grant Dunham, Thomas Erickson, John Erjavec, Kurt Eylands, Gerald Groenewold, Jay Gunderson, Doug Hajicek, Joseph Hartman, David Hassett, Loreal Heebink, John Hendrikson, Melanie Hetland, John Hurley, Michael Jones, Marc Kurz, Dennis Laudal, Carolyn Lillemoen, Donald McCollar, Stanley Miller, Thomas Moe, Mark Musich, Erin O'Leary, John Pavlish, Wesley Peck, Debra Pflughoeft-Hassett, Butch Riske, Lucia Romuld, David Rush, Grant Schelkopf, Darren Schmidt, Richard Schulz, Jaroslav Solc, Everett Sondreal, James Sorensen, Edward Steadman, Bradley Stevens, Tina Strobel, Michael Swanson, Jeffrey Thompson, Gregory Weber, Constance Wixo, Ye Zhuang, Christo-pher Zygarlicke; Education and Human Development: Gregory Gagnon; Geology and Geological Engineering: Scott Korom; HNRC: Jean Altepeter; INMED: Eugene DeLorme; John D. Odegard School of Aerospace Sciences: Bruce Smith; Law School: Larry Spain; Microbiology and Immunology: David Bradley; Nursing: Lonna Milburn; Physical Therapy: Peggy Mohr; Physics: John Wagner; Practice and Role Development: Christine Burd; Regional Weather Information Center: Leon Osborne; SBDC: Wally Kearns; School of Communication: Stephen Rendahl; School of Communication - Native Media Center: Lynda Kenney; School of Medicine and Health Sciences: H. David Wilson; Social Work - CFSTC: Ann Lochner; Sociology - SSRI: Cordell Fontaine; Space Studies: Robert Andres; Student Health Services: Alan Allery; Teaching and Learning: Lynne Chalmers, Mark Guy, Glenn Olsen.

-- Sally Eckert-Tilotta, Interim Director, Office of Research and Program Development.

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## RESEARCH, GRANT OPPORTUNITIES LISTED

Following are research and grant opportunities. For more information, contact the Office of Research and Program Development at 777-4278.

### NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES (NEH)

Collaborative Research Grants support original research undertaken by a team of two or more scholars or research coordinated by an individual scholar that because of its scope or complexity requires additional staff or resources beyond the individual's salary. Eligible projects include research leading to the preparation of scholarly publications that break new ground or offer fresh perspectives; editions of works or documents that are of value to scholars and general readers and have been previously inaccessible or available only in inadequate editions; annotated translations into English of works that provide insight into other cultures; and conferences addressing a topic of major significance to the humanities. Applicants must make a convincing case for the importance of the project, describe sound research methods and a practical workplan, and demonstrate that appropriate staff and institutional resources are available and committed. These grants support full-time or part-time activities for periods of up to 3 years. Awards normally range from \$10,000-\$200,000, but requests for more than \$100,000 should include the use of matching funds or cost sharing. Deadline: 9/1/01. Contact: Division of Research Programs, 202/606- 8200; [collaborative@neh.gov](mailto:collaborative@neh.gov); <http://www.neh.fed.us/grants/onebook/collresearch.html>.

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## EARTHWATCH INSTITUTE

The Center for Field Research (CFR), an affiliate organization of Earthwatch Institute, invites proposals for basic and applied research in Folklore and Oral History. The project must have scientific merit, and feasibly and constructively involve non- specialist Earthwatch volunteers in the research tasks. Grants will range from \$7,000-\$130,000, depending on length of time in the field and number of volunteer participants involved. A typical project would employ 5-10 volunteers on each of 3-6 sequential teams over several months. Each team normally spends 1-3 weeks in the field as most participants are on leave from their normal occupations. Deadlines: Preliminary proposals should be submitted no later than 12-14 months prior to the projected start of fieldwork. Full proposals for peer review are invited by the Center. Contact: Moises Leon, Social Sciences Program Director, [mleon@earthwatch.org](mailto:mleon@earthwatch.org); <http://www.earthwatch.org/cfr/CFRfolklore.html>.

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## NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DEAFNESS AND OTHER COMMUNICATION DISORDERS (NIDCD)

Applications are invited for exploratory, initial feasibility pilot studies focused on hearing, balance, smell, taste, voice, speech, and language. This Program Announcement (PA) supersedes a previous NIDCD PA: High Impact Research: Feasibility Studies, PAR-00-075 (NIH Guide, March 6, 2000). The current PA places more emphasis on exploratory, initial feasibility pilot studies into new areas of research within the communication sciences and less emphasis on the potential for high impact. Exploratory research involves initial feasibility pilot studies in which the technological, methodological, or theoretical approach to a problem lacks sufficient preliminary/baseline data and a body of peer-reviewed publications, but whose successful outcome would make a significant contribution to a scientific area or field. It is anticipated that most applications will be submitted by investigators with ongoing research programs who wish to change the focus of their current research effort or move into a new area of re-search within the communication sciences but need additional funds to complete initial pilot studies. The NIDCD encourages applications from investigators conducting research outside the communication sciences who possess expertise with methodological or technological approaches which have not been typically applied to but which would greatly promote scientific progress within the communication sciences. The NIDCD R21 funding mechanism will be used for up to 2 years of support and up to \$50,000 in direct costs per year. Deadline: 8/10/01. Contact: Taste and Smell--Dr. Barry Davis, 301/402-3464, [barry\\_davis@nih.gov](mailto:barry_davis@nih.gov); Voice and Speech--Dr. Lana Shekim, 301/496-5061, [Lana\\_Shekim@nih.gov](mailto:Lana_Shekim@nih.gov); Language--Dr. Judith Cooper, 301/496-5061, [judith\\_cooper@nih.gov](mailto:judith_cooper@nih.gov); Balance--Dr. Daniel Sklare, 301/496-1804, [daniel\\_sklare@nih.gov](mailto:daniel_sklare@nih.gov); Hearing: Dr. Amy Donahue, 301/402-3458, [amy\\_donahue@nih.gov](mailto:amy_donahue@nih.gov).

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## NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF CHILD HEALTH AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT (NICHD)

The Population Research Infrastructure Program invites applications for full-fledged Research Infrastructure Awards and Developmental Awards in support of research on the demographic processes of fertility, mortality, and migration and their broad interrelationships with larger social, economic, and cultural processes. Areas of supported research include fertility and family planning, sexually transmitted disease, family and household demography, mortality and health, population movement, population and environment, and population composition and change. Research supported uses a broad spectrum of scientific approaches in the clinical, behavioral, and social sciences. The primary purposes of the Population Research Infrastructure Program are to provide resources to support and advance research that will improve the understanding of the antecedents and consequences of population structure and change, facilitate interdisciplinary collaboration among investigators conducting population-related research, and promote innovative approaches to population research questions. An additional goal is to facilitate interaction among scientists in locations throughout the U.S. to contribute to the integration and coordination of population research. The resource-related Research Project Grant (R24) mechanism will be used for Research Infrastructure Awards and the Exploratory/Developmental Grant (R21) mechanism for Developmental Awards. The NICHD intends to commit approximately \$1.6 million in total costs [Direct plus Facilities and Administrative (F & A) costs] in FY 2002 to fund 3-6 new and/or competing continuation grants in response to this RFA. Deadlines: 10/15/01 (Letter of Intent), 11/16/01

(Proposal). Contact: Dr. Christine Bachrach, Demographic and Behavioral Sciences Branch, 301/496-9485, cbachrach@nih.gov; <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HD-01-010.html>.

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The Community Technology Centers Program intends to fund 170-190 awards to promote the use of technology in education through development of model programs that demonstrate the educational effectiveness of technology in low-income or economically distressed urban and rural communities. Eligible applicants are State and local educational agencies, tribal governments, colleges, institutions of higher education, libraries, museums, and other public and private nonprofit or for-profit agencies and organizations. Applicants under this program are encouraged to propose an array of services and activities that provide access to computers and information technology for local community residents, such as: 1) After-school activities for children of all ages to use software that provides homework help and academic enrichment, exploration of the Internet, and multimedia activities, including web page design and creation; 2) Adult Education and Family Literacy, including GED, English as a second Language, and adult basic education classes or programs, introduction to computers, intergenerational activities, and lifelong learning opportunities through technology and the Internet; 3) Career Development and Job Preparation, such as computer skills training (basic and advanced), resume writing workshops, and access to databases of employment opportunities, career information, and other online materials; and 4) Small Business Activities, such as computer-based training for basic entrepreneurial skills and electronic commerce, as well as access to information on business start-up programs. Awards are expected to be approximately \$180,000 per year for up to 12 months. A 30% cost share is required. Deadline: 7/16/01. Contact: Mary LeGwin, 202/260-2499 or April Blunt, 202/690-5614, ctc@ed.gov; [http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=2001\\_register&docid=01-13550-filed](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=2001_register&docid=01-13550-filed).

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## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION (NSF)

Support is provided for basic research in Geography and Regional Science. A variety of problems associated with human, physical, and biotic systems on the Earth's surface are relevant to this program. The spatiality of these systems and their interaction at human scales circumscribe the core of Geography. Investigations into the nature, causes, and consequences of human activity within particular "places and spaces" and the extension to regional and global spheres are especially encouraged. Projects on a variety of topics (both domestic and international) qualify for support if they are argued to contribute to scholarship by enhancing geographical knowledge, concepts, theories, and their application to societal problems and concerns. The average award is about \$90,000 over 16 months, although awards range from \$20,000 (6 months) to more than \$300,000 (5 years). Deadline: 8/15/01. Contact: Nina S. Lam, Program Director, 703/292-8754; nlam@nsf.gov; <http://www.nsf.gov/sbe/bcs/geograph/start.htm>.

Proposals are requested for projects conducting basic research in human cognitive and perceptual functions, and the development of these functions in children. Specific topics include, but are not limited to, visual, auditory, and tactile perception, perceptual and conceptual development, attention, memory, spatial cognition, learning, language processing, reading, motor control, and reasoning. Research supported by the program encompasses a broad range of theoretical perspectives (e.g., symbolic computation, connectionism, dynamical systems), and a wide variety of methods (e.g., experimental studies of normal or cognitively impaired adults or children, computational modeling, functional neuroimaging). Awards are generally around \$300,000 total project costs for a duration of 3 years. Contact: Joseph Young, Program Director, 703/292-8732; jyoung@nsf.gov; <http://www.nsf.gov/sbe/bcs/hcp/start.htm>. Deadline: 7/15/01.

The NSF Divisions of Computer and Communications Research (C-CR) and Mathematical Sciences (DMS) and the Defense Sciences Office of the Defense Advanced Projects Research Agency (DARPA) plan to support research and development teams focusing on mathematical and computational innovations relevant to representation and computational manipulation of geometrical objects. Areas of specific interest include: Computational Topology and Geometry; Computational and Geometric Cartography, including Spatial Statistics; and Geometric aspects of Graphics

and Computer-Aided Design (CAD). An ideal team would include expertise in the mathematical sciences, computer science, computational science, and engineering, and would have connections to industry or government laboratories. Two types of projects are anticipated: Incubation Grants of up to \$100K for 1-2 years to develop collaborations; and Team Grants of up to 3 years at \$200-\$300K per year to support teams of investigators. It is estimated there will be 4-7 Team Grants and 5-10 Incubation Grants. Individuals needing assistance in finding team members may email NSF according to instructions in the program announcement. Deadline: 9/4/01. Contact: Alvin I Thaler, Mathematical Sciences, Program Director, 703/292-4863, tha-ler@nsf.gov; William Randolph Franklin, Numeric, Symbolic, and Geometric Computation, Program Director, CISE/C-CR, 703/292-8912, wfrankli@nsf.gov; Douglas Cochran, Applied & Computational Mathematics, Program Manager, DARPA/DSO, 703/696-2287, dcochran@darpa.mil; <http://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/getpub?nsf01111>.

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA)

Proposals are requested for projects appropriate for the program, Issues in Human Health Risk Assessment: Novel Mechanistic Approaches in Human Health Risk Assessment. Studies should focus on the development and characterization of new risk assessment methods, approaches, and practices that take into account current understanding of the commonalities and differences in the basic mechanisms through which animals and humans respond to toxic agents. This includes studies that identify and characterize the key mechanisms, pathways, and processes that control the effects of toxic environmental chemicals on cell proliferation, differentiation, and death in both humans and animal models. Major emphasis should be on defining those aspects that are the same or different from both qualitative and quantitative aspects between animals and humans. Studies that correlate comparisons between human and rodent primary tissue-specific cells in vitro and the corresponding rodent tissue in vivo and which focus on agents or metabolites that have previously tested positive in animal models are encouraged. Successful proposals will demonstrate an improved understanding of a toxic response and use of that knowledge in improving human health risk assessments. Up to \$6 million is expected to be awarded in fiscal year 2002 in this program area. The projected award range is \$200,000-\$300,000 per year total costs for up to 3 years. Deadline: 9/12/01. Contact: Chris Saint, 202/564-6909, saint.chris@epa.gov; Nigel Field, 228/688-1981, fields.nigel@epa.gov; <http://es.epa.gov/ncer/rfa/01humanhe.html>.

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-- Sally Eckert-Tilotta, Interim Director, Office of Research and Program Development.

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